

CLAIMS

1. A measuring device comprising an elongate member; and a coupling in operative association with the elongate member, the coupling being adapted to hinge about an axis which lies substantially parallel to a transverse axis of the elongate member.
2. A measuring device according to claim 1 wherein the axis about which the coupling is hinged lies substantially contiguous with a free end of the elongate member.
3. A measuring device according to any preceding claim wherein the coupling comprises a first section and a second section, wherein the first section and the second section are disposed at a desired position relative to one another.
4. A measuring device according to claim 3 wherein the first section and the second section are disposed substantially perpendicular to one another.
- 20 5. A measuring device according to claim 3 or 4 wherein the coupling is moveable between a first state in which the first section is disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the elongate member, to a second state in which the second section is disposed substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the elongate member.
- 25 6. A measuring device according to any preceding claim wherein the coupling is secured to the elongate member by means of an anchor.
7. A measuring device according to claim 6 comprising a pin arranged to secure the coupling to the anchor, the pin defining the axis about which the coupling is hinged.

8. A measuring device according to claim 7 in which one or other of the coupling or anchor has a pair of spaced apart collars, while the other of the coupling or anchor has a single collar shaped and dimensioned to be seated between the pair of spaced apart collars, wherein the pin passes through the three collars in order to secure the coupling to the anchor.
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9. A measuring device according to any of claims 5 to 8 wherein the coupling is displaceable, in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the elongate member, a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the first section or the second section.
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10. A measuring device according to any preceding claim wherein the elongate member comprises a tape having measuring indicia thereon.
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11. A measuring device according to any of claims 6 to 9 further comprising a backing plate secured, through the elongate member, to the anchor.
12. A measuring device according to any of claims 3 to 11 wherein a transition from the first section to the second section has a radius of curvature whose centre corresponds to the axis about which the coupling is hinged.
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13. A measuring device according to any preceding claim further comprising a housing into which the elongate member is retractable.
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